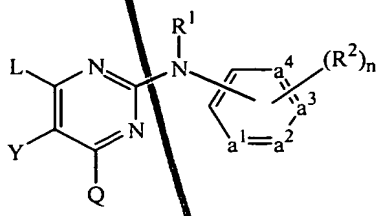
8. (Twice Amended) A method of treating subjects suffering from HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) infection comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula



(I)

a *N*-oxide, a pharmaceutically acceptable addition salt, or a stereochemically isomeric form thereof, wherein

$-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ represents a bivalent radical of formula

-CH=CH-CH=CH- (a-1);

-N=CH-CH=CH- (a-2);

-N=CH-N=CH- (a-3);

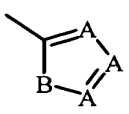
-N=CH-CH=N- (a-4);

-N=N-CH=CH- (a-5);

n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and in case $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ is (a-1), then n may also be 5;

R^1 is hydrogen; aryl; formyl; C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl; C_{1-6}alkyl; C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl; C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with formyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyloxy; C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl substituted with C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl;

each R^2 independently is hydroxy, halo, C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with cyano or $-C(=O)R^6$, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms or cyano, C_{2-6}alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms or cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, cyano, nitro, amino, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy, polyhalomethylthio, $-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-NH-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-C(=O)R^6$, $-NHC(=O)H$, $-C(=O)NHNH_2$, $-NHC(=O)R^6$, $-C(=NH)R^6$ or a radical of formula



(c)

wherein each A independently is N, CH or CR^6;

B is NH, O, S or NR^6;

p is 1 or 2; and

R^6 is methyl, amino, mono- or dimethylamino or polyhalomethyl;

L is C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, whereby each of said aliphatic group may be substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from

* C_{3-7}cycloalkyl,
* indolyl or isoindolyl, each optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents each independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy and C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl,
* phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl or pyridazinyl, wherein each of said aromatic rings may optionally be substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from the substituents defined in R^2; or

L is $-X-R^3$ wherein

R^3 is phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl or pyridazinyl, wherein each of said aromatic rings may optionally be substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from the substituents defined in R^2; and

X is $-NR^1-$, -NH-NH-, -N=N-, -O-, $-C(=O)-$, -CHOH-, -S-, $-S(=O)-$ or $-S(=O)_2-$;

Q represents hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, halo, polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyl or $-NR^4R^5$; and

R^4 and R^5 are each independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkyloxy, C_{1-12}alkylcarbonyl, C_{1-12}alkyloxycarbonyl, aryl, amino, mono- or di(C_{1-12}alkyl)amino, mono- or di(C_{1-12}alkyl)aminocarbonyl wherein each of the aforementioned C_{1-12}alkyl groups may optionally and each individually be substituted with one or two substituents each independently selected from hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyloxy, carboxyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, cyano, amino, imino, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy, polyhalomethylthio, $-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-NH-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-C(=O)R^6$, $-NHC(=O)H$, $-C(=O)NHNH_2$, $-NHC(=O)R^6$, $-C(=NH)R^6$, aryl and Het; or

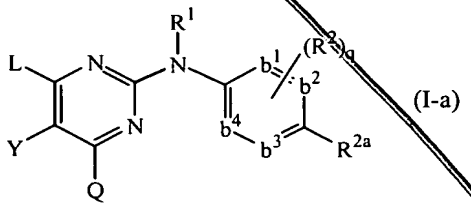
R^4 and R^5 taken together may form pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, or mono- or di(C_{1-12}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkylidene;

Y represents hydroxy, halo, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, C_{2-6}alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with cyano or $-C(=O)R^6$, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, cyano, nitro, amino, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy, polyhalomethylthio, $-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-NH-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-C(=O)R^6$, $-NHC(=O)H$, $-C(=O)NHNH_2$, $-NHC(=O)R^6$, $-C(=NH)R^6$ or aryl;

aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, cyano, nitro, polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyl and polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyloxy;

Het is an aliphatic or aromatic heterocyclic radical; said aliphatic heterocyclic radical is selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl and tetrahydrothienyl wherein each of said aliphatic heterocyclic radical may optionally be substituted with an oxo group; and said aromatic heterocyclic radical is selected from pyrrolyl, furanyl, thienyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl and pyridazinyl wherein each of said aromatic heterocyclic radical may optionally be substituted with hydroxy.

~~18~~ 19. (Once Amended) A method of treating non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor resistant HIV infection in a subject in need thereof comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a compound having the formula



(I-a)

a *N*-oxide, an addition salt, or a stereochemically isomeric form thereof, wherein

$-b^1=b^2-C(R^{2a})=b^3-b^4=$ represents a bivalent radical of formula

-CH=CH-C(R^{2a})=CH-CH= (b-1);

-N=CH-C(R^{2a})=CH-CH= (b-2);

-CH=N-C(R^{2a})=CH-CH= (b-3);

-N=CH-C(R^{2a})=N-CH= (b-4);

-N=CH-C(R^{2a})=CH-N= (b-5);

-CH=N-C(R^{2a})=N-CH= (b-6);

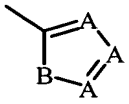
-N=N-C(R^{2a})=CH-CH= (b-7);

q is 0, 1, 2; or where possible q is 3 or 4;

R^1 is hydrogen; aryl; formyl; C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl; C_{1-6}alkyl; C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl; C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with formyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyloxy; C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl substituted with C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl;

R^{2a} is cyano, aminocarbonyl, mono- or dimethylaminocarbonyl, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with cyano, aminocarbonyl or mono- or dimethylaminocarbonyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl substituted with cyano, or C_{2-6}alkynyl substituted with cyano;

each R^2 independently is hydroxy, halo, C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with cyano or -C(=O)R^6, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms or cyano, C_{2-6}alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms or cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, cyano, nitro, amino, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy, polyhalomethylthio, -S(=O)$_p$$R^6$, -NH-S(=O)$_p$$R^6$, -C(=O)$R^6$, -NHC(=O)H, -C(=O)$NHNH_2$, -NHC(=O)$R^6$, -C(=NH)$R^6$ or a radical of formula



(c)

wherein each A independently is N, CH or CR^6;

B is NH, O, S or NR^6;

p is 1 or 2; and

R^6 is methyl, amino, mono- or dimethylamino or polyhalomethyl;

L is C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, whereby each of said aliphatic group may be substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from

* C_{3-7}cycloalkyl,

* indolyl or isoindolyl, each optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents each independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy and C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl,
* phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl or pyridazinyl, wherein each of said aromatic rings may optionally be substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from the substituents defined in R^2; or

C2 L3 cont

L is $-X-R^3$ wherein

R^3 is phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl or pyridazinyl, wherein each of said aromatic rings may optionally be substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from the substituents defined in R^2; and

X is $-NR^1-$, -NH-NH-, -N=N-, -O-, -C(=O)-, -CHOH-, -S-, -S(=O)- or $-S(=O)_2-$;

Q represents hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, halo, polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyl or $-NR^4R^5$; and

R^4 and R^5 are each independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkyloxy, C_{1-12}alkylcarbonyl, C_{1-12}alkyloxycarbonyl, aryl, amino, mono- or di(C_{1-12}alkyl)amino, mono- or di(C_{1-12}alkyl)aminocarbonyl wherein each of the aforementioned C_{1-12}alkyl groups may optionally and each individually be substituted with one or two substituents each independently selected from hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyloxy, carboxyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, cyano, amino, imino, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy, polyhalomethylthio, $-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-NH-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-C(=O)R^6$, -NHC(=O)H, $-C(=O)NHNH_2$, $-NHC(=O)R^6$, $-C(=NH)R^6$, aryl and Het; or

R^4 and R^5 taken together may form pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, or mono- or di(C_{1-12}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkylidene;

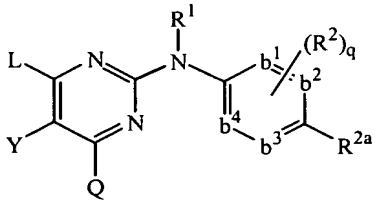
Y represents hydroxy, halo, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, C_{2-6}alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with cyano or $-C(=O)R^6$,

C_{1-6}alkyloxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, cyano, nitro, amino, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy, polyhalomethylthio, $-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-NH-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-C(=O)R^6$, $-NHC(=O)H$, $-C(=O)NHNH_2$, $-NHC(=O)R^6$, $-C(=NH)R^6$ or aryl;

aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, cyano, nitro, polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyl and polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyloxy;

Het is an aliphatic or aromatic heterocyclic radical; said aliphatic heterocyclic radical is selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl and tetrahydrothienyl wherein each of said aliphatic heterocyclic radical may optionally be substituted with an oxo group; and said aromatic heterocyclic radical is selected from pyrrolyl, furanyl, thienyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl and pyridazinyl wherein each of said aromatic heterocyclic radical may optionally be substituted with hydroxy.

20. (Once Amended) A method of treating non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor resistant HIV-1 infection in a subject in need thereof comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a compound having the formula



(I-a)

a *N*-oxide, an addition salt, or a stereochemically isomeric form thereof, wherein

$-b^1=b^2-C(R^{2a})=b^3-b^4=$ represents a bivalent radical of formula

$-CH=CH-C(R^{2a})=CH-CH=$ (b-1);

$-N=CH-C(R^{2a})=CH-CH=$ (b-2);

$-CH=N-C(R^{2a})=CH-CH=$ (b-3);

$-N=CH-C(R^{2a})=N-CH=$ (b-4);

$-N=CH-C(R^{2a})=CH-N=$ (b-5);

-CH=N-C(R^{2a})=N-CH= (b-6);

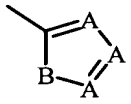
-N=N-C(R^{2a})=CH-CH= (b-7);

q is 0, 1, 2; or where possible q is 3 or 4;

R^1 is hydrogen; aryl; formyl; C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl; C_{1-6}alkyl; C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl; C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with formyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyloxy; C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl substituted with C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl;

R^{2a} is cyano, aminocarbonyl, mono- or dimethylaminocarbonyl, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with cyano, aminocarbonyl or mono- or dimethylaminocarbonyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl substituted with cyano, or C_{2-6}alkynyl substituted with cyano;

each R^2 independently is hydroxy, halo, C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with cyano or -C(=O)R^6, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms or cyano, C_{2-6}alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms or cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, cyano, nitro, amino, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy, polyhalomethylthio, -S(=O)$_p$$R^6$, -NH-S(=O)$_p$$R^6$, -C(=O)$R^6$, -NHC(=O)H, -C(=O)$NHNH_2$, -NHC(=O)$R^6$, -C(=NH)$R^6$ or a radical of formula



(c)

wherein each A independently is N, CH or CR^6;

B is NH, O, S or NR^6;

p is 1 or 2; and

R^6 is methyl, amino, mono- or dimethylamino or polyhalomethyl;

L is C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, whereby each of said aliphatic group may be substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from

* C_{3-7}cycloalkyl,
* indolyl or isoindolyl, each optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents each independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy and C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl,

phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl or pyridazinyl, wherein each of said aromatic rings may optionally be substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from the substituents defined in R^2; or

L is $-X-R^3$ wherein

R^3 is phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl or pyridazinyl, wherein each of said aromatic rings may optionally be substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from the substituents defined in R^2; and

X is $-NR^1-$, -NH-NH-, -N=N-, -O-, -C(=O)-, -CHOH-, -S-, -S(=O)- or $-S(=O)_2-$;

Q represents hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, halo, polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyl or $-NR^4R^5$; and

R^4 and R^5 are each independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkyloxy, C_{1-12}alkylcarbonyl, C_{1-12}alkyloxycarbonyl, aryl, amino, mono- or di(C_{1-12}alkyl)amino, mono- or di(C_{1-12}alkyl)aminocarbonyl wherein each of the aforementioned C_{1-12}alkyl groups may optionally and each individually be substituted with one or two substituents each independently selected from hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyloxy, carboxyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, cyano, amino, imino, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy, polyhalomethylthio, $-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-NH-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-C(=O)R^6$, -NHC(=O)H, $-C(=O)NHNH_2$, $-NHC(=O)R^6$, $-C(=NH)R^6$, aryl and Het; or

R^4 and R^5 taken together may form pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, or mono- or di(C_{1-12}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkylidene;

Y represents hydroxy, halo, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, C_{2-6}alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with cyano or $-C(=O)R^6$, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, cyano, nitro, amino, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, polyhalomethyl, polyhalomethyloxy, polyhalomethylthio, $-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-NH-S(=O)_pR^6$, $-C(=O)R^6$, -NHC(=O)H, $-C(=O)NHNH_2$, $-NHC(=O)R^6$, $-C(=NH)R^6$ or aryl;

aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, cyano, nitro, polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyl and polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyloxy;

C2 R3 cont

Het is an aliphatic or aromatic heterocyclic radical; said aliphatic heterocyclic radical is selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl and tetrahydrothienyl wherein each of said aliphatic heterocyclic radical may optionally be substituted with an oxo group; and said aromatic heterocyclic radical is selected from pyrrolyl, furanyl, thienyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl and pyridazinyl wherein each of said aromatic heterocyclic radical may optionally be substituted with hydroxy.